

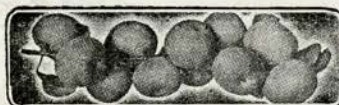
NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

JANUARY, 1944



Scene at the home of Mr. W. E. H. Porter, Hansboro, N. D. Left to right: Mrs. G. H. Gorder, Mr. G. H. Gorder, Rev. O. E. Dolven, the Dolven boys, all of Makoti, N. D., and Mr. Porter, digging plants for the Wayside Memorial Gardens.

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THE COMMON TERN

By
O. A. Stevens



O. A. Stevens Probably the most common species of tern in the Dakotas is the black tern (see June 1938 issue) which is associated with the shallow, reed-filled prairie ponds and sloughs. Several kinds of birds are covered by that all inclusive name, "sea gull." As a group, the terns are rather easily distinguished from the gulls by their trimmer form and more active movements. The wings taper to slender points, the birds fly with their sharp beaks directed downward, ready to pounce upon any small fry which may come close to the surface of the water.

When it comes to distinguishing the different kinds of gulls or of terns, one is easily excused for his innocence. Charles Wendell Townsend, who wrote the account of the arctic tern for Mr. Bent's series of life history volumes, says, "It would be difficult to point out to the untrained observer the differences between the common and arctic terns." The arctic tern is the one so noted for nesting at the Arctic Circle and migrating to the Antarctic region. Forster's tern occurs in our region and it also closely resembles the common and arctic terns.

The common tern is a mostly white or grayish bird with a black cap on its head. It is about the size of a common pigeon but of a slender build. It has a relatively long, sharp beak. These birds are often seen about the larger lakes, especially those which have any sandy or rocky islands. Dr. Roberts records their nesting on the islands in Mille Lacs Lake, Minnesota. They nest on the large refuges in North and South Dakota. A well known colony of common terns has been the one on Muskeget Island near Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Mr. Bent describes also large colonies which he visited on rocky islands in Lake Winnipegosis, Manitoba.

This species is one of those which has been known so long that early references to it would fail to distinguish the other kinds now known to be so similar in appearance. Including three races from Asia, it nests all the way around the arctic and sub-arctic region and migrates to the coasts of South America, Africa, Indian, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. It was one of the 554 species of birds listed by Linnaeus in 1758. He called it *Sterna hirundo*, "swallow tern," for still

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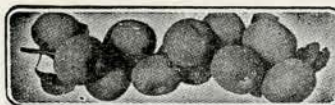
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earlier writers had called it *Hirundo marina*, "sea swallow," a name which it still carries. Alexander Wilson called it "great tern." He did not describe the royal, Caspian and sooty terns which are still larger.

Nests are sometimes just a hollow in the sand. In other cases quite a little beach drift material is gathered together. Three eggs are most commonly laid and it is generally believed only the

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NEWSLANTS

By
Harry A. Graves



H. A. Graves

Already the new things in vegetables are beginning to put in their appearance. Burpee's are usually one of the first to list one. This year, they have Tampala—a substitute for spinach—but better than spinach in most every way according to the ads. I hope they have something. Demonstration victory gardeners this past year admit almost 100% that spinach is beyond them. While many of them would rather have spinach than Swiss chard, they have gone over to Swiss chard because of its easy culture and dependability.

No doubt many of you read "In This Corner," a column by Cedric Adams in the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune. His column is always good and often contains horticultural references of interest. I quote direct from his column of December 12: "This is no month to be thumbing through your seed catalog, but you may be interested in a new vegetable for 1944. It's a combination called the cu-cum-squa and is a cross between a cucumber and a squash. It'll take stewing, frying, boiling, even pickling. The catch: Each seed costs \$5.00." I can't resist the temptation to stick a pin into this balloon. I am sure I am correct when I say that a cross between a true cuke and a true squash is impossible. Celtuce was hailed by many the last couple of years as a cross between celery and lettuce. Actually, it is a kind of lettuce.

The North Dakota Society regrets the recent passing of W. R. McGillivray, proprietor of "Mac's Nursery" at Jamestown. "Mac" was a long time member of our Society. He was conductor for the Northern Pacific on the Jamestown to Oakes run when I first met him in 1940, but was retired a short time later because of ill health. He was well enough, however, to keep busy planting shrubs and trees for others and was always away on some such errand whenever I stopped to see him.

The suggestion has been made that the North Dakota Society attempt an afternoon and evening meeting this year at Turtle River State Park. This park is located between Grand Forks and Larimore on U. S. Highway No. 2. A beautiful scenic spot on the Turtle River, it should be well suited for such a gathering. Building facilities are available and there is a good possibility that the annual dinner could be served by a ladies'

group from Larimore. Recognizing all the travel difficulties and other objections to such a meeting in times like these, we must also recognize the importance of an annual meeting of some sort for our Society. Victory gardens are receiving national recognition. Our Society should take a more prominent part in their promotion. I wish those of you who have read this far would send in their opinions. Should we have a meeting? If the answer is "Yes," should we have it at Turtle River State Park, and when should we have it? Better send in your ideas, because if you don't I am liable to go ahead on my own.

Since we have already discussed varieties to some extent this month, let me add for those of you who are connoisseurs of good buttered beets that the variety **Long Season**, from the Harris Seed Company of Rochester, New York, is well worth a trial. In spite of catalog claims for dark color, the flesh of these beets is very light red with lighter rings—I would just about throw them out of class on exhibition. The flavor is excellent and very sweet. The tops are very much like sugar beet tops and make excellent greens. Dr. Walster got me to try them last year and we are sold.

This little poem on Soy Beans is not an indorsement of this crop, but is included for horticultural poets—who may also like soy beans. Attention Beebe!

The soybean's the busiest bean 'neath the sun;
It's even invaded the dog in his bun.
It's used to make oil, and it's used to make flour;
It's used to feed privates and Chief Eisenhower.

It's used to stretch coffee, it figures in stew,
They plan to make automobiles of it, too.
It doubles as cloth and explosives and soap
And plastic and paint and adhesives and rope.

It pads mashed potatoes and meat balls and cereal.

This down-to-earth soybean, so far from ethereal.
It builds up the muffin, the waffle, the roll;
It's good for the body and good for the soul.

It's protein, not starch, so when used in a batter,
It isn't so apt to make bulky hips fatter.
And all of God's children will certainly blubber
With joy when at last it makes synthetic rubber.

It strengthens both gravy and chile can carne—
That's why I maintain that it isn't blarney
To say that this bean, which could hardly be
littler,

Will help us defeat Hirohito and Hitler.

—From "Meat That Grows on Vines,"

By Mary Titus.



THE HURLEY FRUIT FARM. A MATTER OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

By
H. R. Woodward



H. R. Woodward

The records of the Dakota Territorial Fair held in Huron in 1886, show that the Alderman Fruit Farm at Hurley, won first on a collection of crabs and hybrids, first on Duchess and Wealthy, first on a collection of cultivated plums and many other fruits, including sweepstakes for collection of fruits grown in Minnesota and Dakota.

From the records it seems that Alderman had the following types: Duchess, Wealthy, Fameuse, Briars Sweet, Whitney's No. 20, Hyslop, Transcendent, Virginia, Chicksaw and other crabs. Most of the apples were Wealthies, Duchess and Whitney's No. 20, with the Wealthy bearing the heaviest crop of any of the standard varieties. In addition to the apples, Mr. Alderman had some smaller fruits and a nursery row. He was prepared to furnish trees and plants which would live and bear fruit. Among the smaller fruits, although he considered them of minor importance, he had Richmond cherries, Miner and Forest Garden plums, raspberries, currants, gooseberries, strawberries, bearing heavily, and the Janesville grape, which proved itself hardy by passing through some severe winters, which killed out the Concord in many places.

Shortly after establishing the orchard, Mr. Alderman's health failed and his wife, Mrs. Laura A. Alderman and his son Roma took up the work. Mr. Alderman died in the State Hospital at Yankton some years later. Mrs. Alderman and her son carried on the work with some success for a few years and sold the farm to George N. Raynor. Raynor operated the farm for a while and upon his death his son Frank took up the work. The farm was eventually sold to W. I. Prosser. Mrs. Alderman took an active part in the South Dakota Horticultural Society for many years, appeared on the programs several times, and was made an honorary member. Her son Roma moved to Beverly Hills, California and he may be still living in Southern California.

By 1914 the trees had become badly diseased, blue grass and timothy, clover and other grasses had grown up among the trees and live stock was pastured therein. The orchard failed because of lack of proper attention, since the farm had come into possession of men who were farmers and

stockmen rather than fruitgrowers. It is highly improbable that much of the orchard would have lived until now even under the best of care. In the History of Southeastern Idaho, by M. D. Beal he states the following: "The first orchard in the Snake Valley of Idaho was planted at Willow Creek, near Idaho Falls, in 1879. In 1942 about a half acre of this orchard was still alive and a few of these trees were still bearing fruit. The orchard consisted of Wealthy, Jonathan and Red Astrakan."

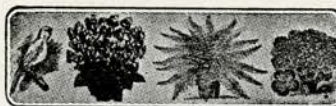
There were some factors which might be included among the reasons for failure of the Hurley orchard. Practically all the apples were early varieties, there being no fall or winter varieties grown except the Wealthy and it is considered an early fall variety in this locality. The help Mr. Alderman could get to harvest such enormous crops was practically all inexperienced in the proper ways to handle fruit, and delivery to proper markets was a slow process at that time. Many of the local farmers had established their own orchards and were raising their own fruit. Most of the fruit was marketed in several South Dakota cities and was in much demand since competition with apples grown elsewhere had not yet become an important factor. Mitchell, Sioux City and Yankton as well as many smaller cities and towns served as his chief market.

According to best information the largest crop was raised in 1904, but it was a few years later than this that the Mitchell fruit company purchased the crop and from my recollections the crop of apples that year was greater than 30,000 bushels.

Alderman was a true fruitgrower. He spaced his trees properly and knew that cultivation and mulching gave the best results. He was an orchardist by nature as well as by training. He was alone in his attempts because no one else in that section made an effort to plant trees on so large a scale. It was considered the largest and most productive orchard in South Dakota. One thing that was lacking, however, was any type of protection from hedges such as has been recently advocated by our Extension Forester and Horticulturist, Frank I. Rockwell, and no attention was paid to contours over his land; the long rows of apples being parallel to the section lines and the highway, even though the land was somewhat rolling.

Claude Sherard now owns the farm and it is utilized entirely in grain and livestock production. At the present time U. S. Highway 18 passes this farm on the north and intersects State Highway 19, on the west. Perhaps after the war

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WILD FLOWERS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

VI. The Pea Family

By L. C. Snyder



Dr. L. C. Snyder

The pea family, Leguminosae, is a large family of trees, shrubs and herbs, well represented in our state. The most characteristic features of the family are the flowers and the fruit. The flowers all have the general makeup of the sweet pea flower. The upper petal, called the standard, is broader and surrounds the rest. The two lateral petals, called wings, are narrow and curved upwards. The two lower petals, the keel, are more or less fused to form a boat-shaped organ. The stamens are ten in number with their filaments usually fused. The fruit of the pea family is usually a dry, 2-valved pod called a legume.

Woody plants of this family include the Black and Honey Locusts, Kentucky Coffee Tree, Wisteria, Caragana, and several Amorphas. Of these only the Honey Locust, Kentucky Coffee Tree and Amorphas are native.

The herbaceous species are very numerous and give us many important forage plants as well as some delightful wild flowers:

1. Yellow Wild Pea (*Thermopsis rhombifolia*).

This species is quite common on sandy soils of the western part of the state and in the Black Hills. The time of bloom is April and May, at which time the waxy yellow flowers are very showy. The leaves are 3-foliate thus resembling cloves. The plant is very tolerant of dry soils and spreads rapidly by means of underground stems. The author has collected this plant at Cedar Pass in the Badlands.

2. *Sophora sericea*.

This very interesting legume has no common name and is rarely found in the western part of the state. The flowers are white to ochre-colored and are borne in erect racemes. The leaves are pinnately compound and silky white. This is the only herbaceous species of *Sophora* in the Great Plains area. Several introduced woody species are grown farther south including the Japanese Pagoda Tree. This has been reported in Sioux Falls.

3. The Lupines (*Lupinus* spp.)

To anyone who has crossed the Big Horn or Rocky Mountains in June or July, the lupines stand out as one of our most showy wild flowers. We have five species growing wild in the western part of our state. The flowers in all of our wild species are blue or white or a combination of these colors.

The digitate leaves with five or more leaflets distinguish the lupines from other legumes. The plants demand a well drained soil and are found on rocky hillsides or in open pine forests of the Black Hills.

4. The Clovers.

(*Trifolium* spp. and *Melilotus* spp.) Here we may consider the true clovers (*Trifolium*) with flowers borne in round heads and sweet clover (*Melilotus*) with flowers in elongated racemes. Both are characterized by the three leaflets. Most of the clovers are introduced forage or lawn plants. Only one species, *Trifolium Beckwithii*, is native in meadows of the eastern part. Some of the native clovers of the Rocky Mountain states are very showy and make interesting rock garden subjects.

5. The Amorphas.

Three species of *Amorpha* are native in the state. All are woody shrubs. The Indigobush *Amorpha fruticosa*, is a tall rather leggy shrub found commonly around lakes over the state. The common Leadplant, *Amorpha canescens*, is a low silvery-leaved shrub found on dry and sandy soils over the state. Dwarf Indigo, *Amorpha nana*, is a shiny, green-leaved dwarf shrub found in the northwestern part of the state. The flowers of the Amorphas are quite showy and the long spikes make attractive flower arrangements. The individual flowers are peculiar in that the wings and keel are lacking. The fruits are, however, characteristic of the legume family.

6. The Psoraleas.

Several species of *Psoraleas* are common over the state. The leaves are digitate, with three to five leaflets and punctate with glandular dots. The flowers are small, white to purple and usually scattered or in small racemes. To this group belongs one of the so-called Indian Turnips, *Psoralea esculenta*. The root is fleshy, turnips-shaped and edible. The leaves of this species are very hairy and clustered near the ground. A single dense cluster of purplish flowers is usually produced in early spring after which the plant dies to the ground. The plant can usually be found on rocky hillsides.

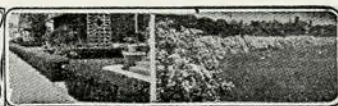
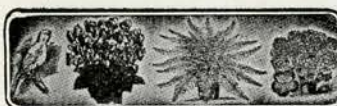
7. Prairie Clover (*Petalosteman* spp.)

The prairie clovers are very showy plants that are found widespread on our prairies and plains over the state. The leaves are clover-like while the flowers which are either white or red are borne in dense elongated spikes.

8. *Astragalus*.

The *Astragali* are numerous and difficult to distinguish. In all, over thirty-five species are reported for the state among which are Buffalo Bean or Ground Plum, Rattle Pod and several Milk Vetches. The plants are usually low and spreading with showy racemes of

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GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

By
Juanita E. Jorgensen

President's Message, Mrs. E. T. Michels



It is so wonderful, as we stand on the threshold of another year, to welcome the Garden Clubs of Rapid City, Flandreau, Centerville and Britton, as new members of the Federation.

To know that they are joining the South Dakota Garden Club movement gives us, its charter members, a real joy and hope, for we needed them very much—and others too.

Mrs. Jorgensen This year we have even graver responsibilities than faced us at the beginning. Our country, at such a time as this, needs the garden clubs more than ever. To fail in the things we are definitely doing, would very greatly impoverish the nation. There are many additional demands on our time, and the challenge of the emergency must be fully met. But, dear friends, how quickly passes the year for those of us who are really busy.

We are truly thankful that in this dear and free land of ours, we can still say "Happy New Year," though deep in our hearts is the ache and painful anxiety for the millions of people whose holidays have been filled with loneliness for their loved ones.

Together let our prayers rise in fervent intercession at the heavenly throne of grace. Oh! We can do lots of things together now. So much joy we gardeners can give to anxious friends—for we have found peace in our garden.

Wholeheartedly we can join in the little song of grace:

"For sunshine, shade and shower,
For autumn's golden hour,
We thank Thee, Lord.
For fruit and falling leaf,
For harvest's fragrant sheaf,
For friendship's bounteous feast,
We thank Thee, Lord.

The Fattening Federation

The secretary's typewriter is chortling with glee as we list the names of four new member clubs this month to bring our total to eleven. This is just about an average of one club per week since the Federation was formed, and is a really encouraging growth. Centerville and Flandreau help swell the roll of easterly towns; while Rapid City from the west, and Britton from the north-

ernmost edge, complete tying the four boundaries of South Dakota together in a true State Federation. By these new alliances we reach seventy-one more people who garden, and we feel a personal friendliness toward each and every one as we come to know you and your activities in club work through your respective secretaries and their reports. We see interesting names, exciting program titles and condensations, and we wish we could attend each meeting. However, we reach out the welcoming hand of friendship, help and suggestions through the pages of this little magazine, and through our Blizzard Belt Gardener, and hope you feel the eagerness with which we share in your interests. Welcome to the Federation!

Here's "Smoke In Your Eyes"

Mark it down for your post-war travel notes that Britton has picnic tables and fireplaces where one can pause and refresh oneself by the way, and all due to the initiative of the Home Garden Club's nineteen members. So often there is no place in small towns to stop for a picnic lunch, but Britton is not one of them. Mrs. Harry W. Nelson, the secretary, says, "In 1942 we built two fireplaces in our city park and by a little suggestion on our part, six picnic tables and benches were contributed by business people of the city. Almost before these fireplaces were completed, people came to use them, and most every nice day finds someone there on a picnic." Did the ladies don slacks, and sling the cement themselves? We ought to have the whole story, as many people would build fireplaces at home if they knew just how to go about it.

Oldest Club in the Federation?

I happen to know that Centerville Garden Club was organized in 1924, and would like to know if there is any group which was formed previous to that time. It was the idea of Mrs. Florence Bervin, long-time florist there, and it speaks well for the foundation she laid, that the club is still active after nearly twenty years. Mrs. Bervin is most pleasantly remembered in Dell Rapids when she judged the first shows held by our youthful club. The Centerville group has donated \$5.00 to the Abbott House of Mitchell; \$5.00 to the Sioux Falls Children's Home; and has bought a \$25.00 War Bond this fall. Some time ago I saw a copy of the yearbook of their club that struck me right where I am most vulnerable on the subject. It had many distinctive features, but two that I remember, were the monthly admonitions on things to do both outdoors and in, during each month; and the poetic titles of their program topics. Wouldn't you like to attend a program of "Wings at My Window," "Gardens in Old China



Were for Men Only," and "Nature's Creeping Poison"? Titles with imagination will bring out double the attendance that the same programs called "Birds," "Chinese Gardens" or "Poison Ivy" would do.

President Donaldson, Speaker

Guest speaker at the last meeting of the South Sioux Garden Club was H. J. Donaldson, president of the Horticultural Society; and it was at this same meeting that Mrs. Donaldson was elected president of the club. Let's get this straight. Mr. Donaldson is head of the Sioux Falls Garden Club; Mrs. Donaldson will lead the South Sioux group; now if they can just persuade Sandy McTavish, junior, to organize a Sioux Falls junior group, the Donaldson family will have the garden club situation pretty well in hand in South Dakota's largest city! There should be some mighty interesting competition between these two clubs this coming year, and we're going to watch and see whose hair begins to get thin first! Anyway, we do congratulate you, Mrs. Donaldson! Other officers of the club are F. X. Wallner, Mrs. Beth Dunkleberger, and Mrs. Margaret Berry. In Mr. Donaldson's talk, he announced publication of the "Gardener" by the Federation and urged that all garden club members make themselves a part of it by contributing newsy items from their own gardening experiences. He said, "It would be a poor gardener who had not learned something new from his summer's work, some bit of information that you might impart to your neighbor over the back fence, and it is this that we want you to put down on paper for all the rest of us to read. Contributors may be anyone who gardens in the prairie regions."

Bi-Monthly Meetings

Two meetings are reported by Mrs. Haidy M. Ford for the Wednesday Afternoon Club, both of which gave me several things to think about. "Plywood, wire baskets, and even cornstalks" were listed as materials which could be used in making containers for your indoor garden plants, in their program on Miniature Gardens. When Miss Canfield spoke on "Neighbors," she said, "Our neighbor is anyone who has impressed something of himself on you, affecting your life and character." She chose the thought of Friendship's Garden as the basis of a review of some of her experiences while living in New York and Boston with a business companion, Miss Edna S. Jones, and gave a word picture of places and people who had made her life's garden better and richer.

Our first call for help with program making comes from someone who knows as much as I do

about it, judging from the fine year book they are using this year. For a club only two years old, the Green Fingers Club of Flandreau, must have done some intensive studying and searching to put out a booklet and program so complete in every detail. One feature I especially like because it forces each member to take part in the program is a monthly roll call on a designated topic; and the last meeting revealed some interesting data on new vegetables that were tried out according to the report of Mrs. F. J. Cherney, the secretary. Broccoli, peanuts, sweet potatoes, celery, Jubilee tomatoes, popcorn, Canadian sweet corn, and garizol were raised. Now what is garizol, pray tell me.

What! No Report?

Nineteen seems to be a popular number for the membership of garden clubs, for we have several with that many on their roster. This includes the Better Homes and Gardens Club of Rapid City which has been newly federated, with Mrs. Wm. F. Kellner as president. We are anxious to hear more about our far western friends.

"Why a Garden?"

This was the topic of a talk by Dr. Carl Christol, president of the Vermillion Club, at their last meeting, according to Margaret Sletwold, secretary. "He pointed out that gardening answers the natural elements of production, artistry, religion, pleasure, health and beauty; and illustrated this in relation to our gardens with some fine examples from the book, "Acres of Diamonds!" This is the club of which the Federation president, Mrs. E. T. Michels, is a member, and she too, gave an inspiring talk on that organization at the annual dinner which begins their club year. Mrs. Michels has been particularly active, too, in soliciting contributions to the Blizzard Belt Gardener from among Vermillion's gracious gardening genre. You will see many prominent names in this pamphlet during the coming months, among them that of Dr. Craig S. Thoms, whom I first admired for his writings in Better Homes and Gardens away back in 1923.

Indoor Bulbs

If coordination is what you are seeking in your program material, just ask Elton Shank of the Brookings club about it. They exhibited many different kinds of geraniums at their last meeting; had geranium rollcalls, a talk on Indoor Bulbs, by Mr. Eugene Whitehead, who also showed slides (colored) of indoor flowers; and they held their session right in the college greenhouse! Nice work, President Snyder!

Newly elected officers of the Dell Rapids Club are Mrs. Ernest Greening, Mrs. Lawrence Elsinger, Mrs. Carl Sherburne and Miss Edna Shreve.



GARDEN NOTES

By
W. E. H. Porter



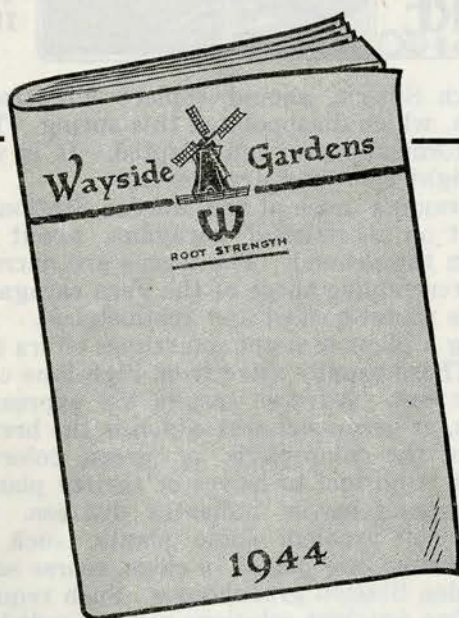
W. E. H. Porter well expressed in these lines:

Ursa Major

How cold and clear the Great Bear lies,
Low in the Northern Sky:
Larger now to our mortal eyes
Than it rides when the summer is high;
Night after night, as the war sweeps west
The sign in the heavens is there.
Is the fuhrer's cry to his hard pressed troops
Comrades, the Bear, the Bear?

Nov. 3rd. Winter made its initial bow with an all day snowfall on Oct. 31st. which until dusk melted as it fell, continuing intermittently for next 24 hours, forming a spotless shroud over the landscape and, last night, a further 2-inch increase and so the garden enters its 5 mos. trance. A few species such as violas, moss phlox including hoodii from Black Hills, the cynanchica Woodruff, etc., still arranged in colorful display. In November issue of **Flower Grower** is a most interesting, informative and tabulated article on ornamental crabapples by the well known specialist A. Eden Boer of Iowa, who himself has over 200 species. Two of my crabs receive honorable mention, the Dolgo and that new weeping crab from Wayside's, which seems to be the species *Ochonomierat Echermeier*. These two rate among the 25 leaders on the chart. When all's said and done, in a country where leafless boughs are the order for over 6 mos., the purple black bark of *Echermeier*, is perhaps its best asset. I do not find it listed in Bailey but it's probably a *Malus* hybrid. This same issue of **Flower Grower** gives us the customary delightful chat by C. W. Wood on "Things Out of the Ordinary" which include Leslie Woodriff's new Ruby jewel *Calla Begonia*, to produce which, this great *Begonia* specialist crossed Geneva Scarlet on original *Calla*. Finally, out of 5,000 seedlings, only 3 were saved. We

stand amazed at such patience and perseverance, such painstaking endeavor, crowned with such success; it shows to what heights thru worlds unknown, the human soul can soar to attain its goal. Another of Woodriff's miracles is his new "It" *Begonia*, as I understand, a hybrid of fibrous and Rex, combining best qualities of both. We all know how difficult most of the Rex can be. It carries a strain of the old outstanding Pres. Carnot Rex: Leaves when they first appear, are splashed with silver, later with apple blossom pink, then rose, then red, so on a plant there are 4 different colored leaves, flowers I understand, are year round with heaviest bloom from November to May and a 24 hour fragrance between rose and freesia. My plant of 2 weeks standing is as adaptable and fast growing as *semperflorens* and already shows a flower stem. Mr. Woodriff's address is Harbor, Ore. It has been said that comparisons are odious, which is doubtless the case, but it must be admitted that this *begonia* makes rest of the window sill dull by comparison. Nov. 18th. Winter's recent foray terminates with a raging chinook, almost sweeping you off the ground and making short work of our few inches of snow, and a tour of the garden, rather a matter of endurance than pleasure. But it is an inspiration to see the fresh wet green of rockets, sweet williams, linarias, especially the silvered mats of *faucicola* daisies of many kinds, pansies, bedstraws and of course, all the evergreens such as *alyssums*, *vinca minor*, moss phlox and, most of all the sedums in green, blue green and burning coals of *spurium*. Even a plant of *Campanula isophylla*, lightly mulched is undamaged as also that broad leaved gem of columbines with its silver sheen, *Aquilegia akitensis* from the mountains of Japan, the others have retired to ground level, and how the window garden responds to a summer in winter while it is yet possible to keep a pleasant warmth indoors. My *It begonia* puts out a red flower with more to follow, ever new maiden hair fronds unfurl and thicken, making an indescribable loveliness of bright lacy green thru which the sunlight filters. The *aloe brevifolia* stretches its tall central spiny stem and the very shiny laurel green shrublet *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* (what a barbarous name). I suggest a slangy reminder of correctness in the vernacular, say blossoming Cal, for its dense foliage and countless branches promise a fiery glow of months duration, as winter lengthens. Perhaps even my *Stretitzia regina* (Bird of Paradise) now a heavy bulbous plant from 1938 seed, will greet me with a flower by spring, all of which however is anticipating for who knows what will escape the terrible death dealing clutch of Jack Frost.



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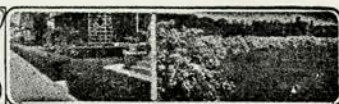
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Wayside Gardens

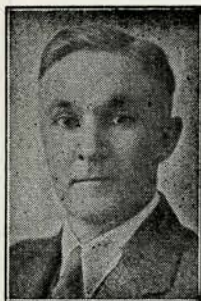
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MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

By
W. R. Leslie



W. R. Leslie

At the horticultural convention at Regina in mid-November, there was a review of the recommended list of ornamentals. It was agreed to extend the list of shrubs and trees recommended for general planting by adding 14 subjects. Each of these has some merit that makes it more or less distinctive. Moreover, in tests they have proven adapted for the landscape adornment of sheltered grounds on the Canadian prairies.

Acanthopanax senticosus, a large shrub of the *Aralia* family that attains a height of from 10 to 15 feet. The spiny branches carry handsome large leaves.

Amur Cherry, *Prunus Maackii*, a beautiful spreading shade tree, with papery, shining, yellowish bark. Seems resistant to black knot disease.

Amur Maackia, a small tree of the Pea family, with 7 to 11 leaflets.

Aurora sorbaria is a late-flowering, rampant shrub produced by F. L. Skinner, by crossing the Chinese form with the common Ural False-spines. The large spikes of creamy white flowers are fragrant and long lasting.

Baton Rouge is another of Mr. Skinner's triumphs. It came from Russian Almond crossed with Ussurian cherry. The 4-foot shrub is covered with rich pink blossoms in May and early June.

Flowering plum selections with large single red flowers are dependable.

Poiret barberry is a hardy 6-foot plant, attractive throughout, that makes a pleasing clipped hedge.

Friedrich potentilla, a hybrid potentilla, Shrubby x Dahaurian, has healthy foliage.

Red Odessa Tamarix bears deep crimson flowers.

Russian Almonds, as introduced a few years ago by the U. S. S. R., are more shapely in bush and larger in flowers than the common commercial strains. Colors vary from white to carmine.

Rosa primula from Turkestan is upright with fine leaves, red branches and bright red stout straight prickles with broad bases.

Siberian currant is healthy, neat, and brightly amber to tawny in winter.

Siberian elm, *Ulmus pumila*, from Manchuria

and Eastern Siberia, should replace all strains from China, which disappointed this spring. The Northern form appears well adapted. It is valuable for light soils and dry weather.

Tidy caragana arose at the Morden Station as a bud-sport on a Littleleaf caragana, about 14 inches from the ground. The leaves are narrow, somewhat resembling those of the Fern caragana. The bush is round-headed and symmetrical.

Growing a plant in a pot sometimes offers difficulties. These usually arise from high-lime content of the soil. Adverse results are expressed in chlorosis, or green-sickness which is the breaking down of the chlorophyll, or green coloring matter, that is normal to leaves of thrifty plants. The yellowing of leaves indicates distress. To escape this soil problem some plants, such as chrysanthemums, are potted in clean, coarse sand in the Morden Station greenhouses. Such require feeding. Two nutrient solutions recommended by the Dominion Horticulturist at Ottawa are employed.

Formula No. 1 consists of the following salts, dissolved in 50 imperial gallons of soft water, Magnesium sulphate 8.7 ounces; Potassium phosphate 4.75; Calcium chloride 9.7; Potassium nitrate 10.5; Ammonium nitrate 23.75 ounces; and Ferric chloride 2.5 grams.

Iron sulphate may be used in place of Ferric chloride. The most favorable method of applying the iron seems to be the making up a one per cent solution. Three to four level teaspoonfuls of the salt to a quart of water will approximate the 1 per cent strength. Store it in a bottle. Shake a few drops into the water when watering the plants. This statement as to applying iron holds for the following chemical treatment also.

Formula No. 2: Dissolve each of the following 4 salts in about a quart of water. Two teaspoonfuls Superphosphate; 1 of Sodium nitrate; 2½ of Magnesium sulphate; and 1 teaspoonful of Potassium chloride. Then mix and dilute with soft water to make up to 5 imperial gallons. Also make up a stock solution of 1 teaspoonful each of boric acid and Manganese sulphate in about ½ gallon of water. To every making up of Formula No. 2 add 1 teaspoonful of this stock solution.

Apply nutrients at the rate of three-eighths of a pint per week for a period of 3 or 4 weeks. Gradually increase the nutrient supply until three-quarters of a pint is given to the plant twice a week. This increase to a full ration will be determined by the individual plant being nourished and its needs.

During periods between applications of the nutrient, the pots should be flooded with clean water to prevent accumulation of salts.

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Plants 1 1/2 ft. wide



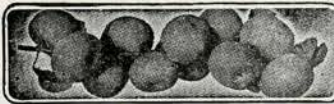
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By

H. J. Donaldson



H. J. Donaldson

Well folks, our hats are off this month to Mr. Francis Carlisle, a life member at New Philadelphia, Ohio, who has taken undisputed lead in our membership contest by sending in one life member and six annual memberships. May his tribe increase. Second place is held by the President with thirteen points and the Secretary is third with twelve points. Mr. F. X. Wallner is fourth with three points and Dr. L. C. Snyder is fifth with two. I am suggesting that everybody buy all the war bonds and stamps possible, but there are a few dollars that will be spent otherwise. In other words, money is plentiful now, and memberships should be easy to get. Since we need these new members now more than later, I hope you folks will make an effort to go out and get them now while the economic conditions are favorable.

The Vermillion Garden club reports that last year they had one Horticultural member who was also a member of their Garden club. This year they have four. Nice going Vermillion. Last year the South Sioux Falls Garden club had one Society member on its roster; this year they have five. A bouquet to you also, South Sioux.

I notice that some of our members have given current magazine subscriptions for Christmas gifts this year. These subscriptions have been ordered thru Sec. Simmons, effecting savings of several times the Society dues, paid annually by these members. It seems odd that more members do not take advantage of these reduced rates on magazines.

I hope you folks notice the extra pages in the magazine this month. These new memberships which have been sent in have helped pay for that. If you can manage to increase that number, it means extra pages in more issues.

(Continued from Page 4)

the State Horticultural Society can prevail upon the Turner County Historical Society or the State Historical Society or perhaps all three can cooperate in establishing a marker there to tell future generations about the great fruitgrowing project and experiment that was carried out on that spot nearly a century ago.

WAYSIDE MEMORIAL GARDENS

Makoti, N. D.

Made possible thru the worthy donation of Mr.
W. E. H. Porter of Hansboro, N. D.

In Makoti, North Dakota, plans are in the making for the construction of a Makoti Soldiers' International Hearth. This Memorial Fireplace is to be erected in the Large Hall of the Makoti Lutheran Church of Makoti, N. D., and will be made up of stones sent by soldier boys in the war from the places in the war where they are stationed.

Some of the stones will also be from Government Representatives of Canadian Provinces, States of the Union, Foreign Countries and Islands of the Sea. Over thirty stones have already been received. The names of the soldier boys are being engraved into the surface of the stone which they send. Some one hundred Makoti young men are in the service of their country in many parts of the world. It is expected that all of them will be represented with a stone in the hearth.

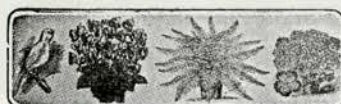
In connection with the Soldiers' Hearth made of stone, it is the thought of the founders and officers, namely, Rev O. E. Dolven, Chairman; G. H. Gorder, Rock Registrar; Ernest Pierson, Secretary, to have a garden of living perennial flowers. Thru the great generosity of W. E. H. Porter of Hansboro, N. D., this dream was realized. On October 18th, the founders, G. H. Gorder and O. E. Dolven of Makoti, drove 200 miles from Makoti to Hansboro. A truck load of over 60 varieties of perennial plants were donated by Mr. Porter to the International Hearth because of his great interest in the fundamental purpose of the Memorial. The name suggested for the planting is "Wayside Memorial Gardens," it lying adjacent to the main highway between Minot and Rose Glen, N. D., in Makoti, N. D.

(Continued from Page 2)

one set. The eggs are pointed, usually buffy with large brown spots, and are about an inch and three-quarters long. Small fish are the chief food. How the parents can find their own young in such a hub-bub as a large colony of birds is a great question. Various observations suggest that often they do not succeed. Mr. Bent quotes some notes made by Dr. L. B. Bishop at Stump Lake, North Dakota, some 40 years ago. He observed the terms killing young ring-billed gulls and suggested it was because the adult gulls ate the eggs and young of the terns.

Large numbers of these birds have been banded in the nesting colonies. One report in 1927,

(Continued on Page 15)



IRIS GLEANINGS

By
Rev. E. L. Jackson



E. L. Jackson "Yes," little thinking that I would get to be a confirmed iris fan. The roots were of that old variety which has two very fine qualities—first, its uniform hardiness and second, its very lovely yellow standards. Yes it was as you guess, Honorable, originated by Lemon in 1840. There were about 40 rhizomes and I put them out in one long row in what used to be an old clay tennis court.

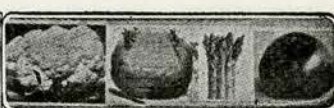
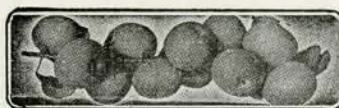
I well remember the first day I decided to break up this spot and put in flowers. It was in the fall and I had 100 mixed Darwin tulips from Henderson and the ground was so hard I had to chop it out in chunks and mash it up with the flat of an axe. In the trench I put bonemeal and carefully tucked in the tulips with a prayer that they might grow. Well, they did, and so Honorable but I soon grew tired of its brown falls which were a sort of dirty mixture of colors and decided to see if I could not get better iris. Well, I did, and that fall I bought a hundred roots from Katkamier in western New York and how eagerly we waited for them to bloom. The names of many of them are forgotten for long ago they were discarded for newer and better varieties. But from the years I remember Rheine Nixe and Dream and General Dewett and many another name that is only ancient history now. It was during this period in my evolution as an Iris fan that I strove for numbers and planted only one root of a kind and had the urge first to own fifty and then a hundred different varieties. I am told that every real Iris enthusiast goes thru the same stages but my stage here was quickened by three unrelated events. First I learned to know the Will Nursery and from Mr. Will I secured some rhizomes that were for nursery stock very good, among them one I hope will always be in my garden, Iris Areneria. When I first bought it I thot

it was just another dwarf till I came to study it and found that it differed from anything I had ever raised. It is really a form of Iris Flavissime Stolinifera and came originally from the plains of Hungary. It does not have the normal iris rhizome but is stoleniferous and the growth wherever one finds it is characteristic. I suppose the climate and soil of our Dakota prairies is especially suited to its growth for it grows here almost like a native and is a real joy to study and watch thru the years. The flowers last only a day at a time but new ones come out each day and it's a clear golden yellow. Imagine some rainy spring morning seeing a long row of it in full bloom adding a new touch to the Dakota Gardens. I hope later on when we have become better acquainted, to tell you more about this little friend of mine and perhaps some of you can send me your own experience as to its growth and habits.

The second thing that helped me to become a serious student and fan was meeting Dean Walster of N. Dak. A. C. and listening to him talk about species Iris and while I have never gone far afield from my First Love, the tall bearded Iris, yet he did encourage me to become a reader and student of iris literature. About this time or a little later I joined the American Iris Society and thru them became acquainted with Iris fans and growers all over the world. One of the advantages of specialling on one flower is that one can form such wonderful friendships and we in this section are very fortunate in the type of men who have pioneered in breeding and growing Iris. I think I owe most, as many of us do, to Robert Schriener who awakened in me a love for tall bearded Iris that I hope I never lose. I still keep in my study drawer for reference his catalogues from 1933 on down with their unique color classification and it was from him that I lost my alphabetical and numbers craze and began to study and compare varieties.

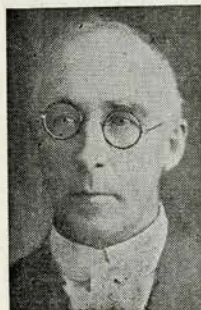
I as well as many others owe him a debt we can never repay. Not long ago in a letter Mr. H. M. Hill of Lafontaine, Kansas, who has some wonderful originations to his credit, said, "I got a lot of real help from Robert Schreiner," while I remember D. M. Andrews who is now gone on before us a little way, speaking so highly of him.

Fats are among the earliest medicines used by man; the fat on nearly every animal was believed to have some medical values. Recent discoveries in using lard as a food in the diet of those suffering from eczema and the benefits of such use, tells us that the early beliefs were founded upon facts.—Prairie Farmer.



SECRETARY'S CORNER

By
W. A. Simmons

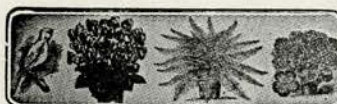


In order to give the good writers a chance to spread themselves, I stayed out of the December magazine and now that I have received so many compliments on that issue, am tempted to stay out indefinitely, and make a really good magazine out of it. Last year Victory gardeners were asked for 18 million gardens and exceeded that number by 10%. This year they are asked for an increase of 10% over last year's number. Also they are advised to make arrangements for the use of the land early, as production is much reduced when the garden is planted late and the usually good moisture conditions of early spring is not availed of. Also they are asked to enlarge the average size of the gardens. Those with but small plots of ground at home are asked to secure more grounds in other places. The owner of any slacker vacant lots that refuses to allow it to be gardened, will be most unpopular this year. Plant explorers of the Dept. of Agriculture are now learning to speak Spanish, indicating that the field of their operation will be South America. That continent has done well by the world in providing the potato, the tomato and hevea rubber trees as well as many ornamentals and more is expected of it, when thoroly searched. Here is what the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture recommends for school lunches: (1) A half-pint of fresh whole milk as a beverage. (2) A 2-ounce serving of meat or fish, or 1 egg, or two ounces of cheese, or half a cup (cooked measure) of dry peas, beans or soybeans, or 4 tablespoons of peanut butter. (3) One cup of vegetables or fruit, or half a cup of each. (4) One or more slices of bread, or muffins or other hot bread, made of whole-grain or enriched flour or cereal. (5) Two teaspoons of butter, or margarine with added vitamin A. There are so many "or's" in this that it seems most anyone's pantry could supply this lunch. Here is something to bear in mind if potatoes are to have a place in your Victory garden this year. In a recent release, the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture says: "The potato grower's old, old question of whether to plant whole Irish potatoes or pieces is nearer an answer as a result of tests by the Agricultural Research Administration, carried on in Louisiana on 4 varieties over 4 years 1940 to 1943. The small whole tubers gave the best re-

sults. Four to five weeks after planting, stands were better from the small whole tubers than from freshly cut or suberized pieces, those that had been allowed to cork over for protection. The plants from whole potatoes held their early lead and produced a better yield than the others. The suberized pieces were next best in tuber production." Altho the acreage devoted to soybeans has grown by leaps and bounds in the past 10 years, there seems no danger of an overproduction. Here is how the 208 million bushels of the past year's crop will be utilized, most of them going into human food and livestock feed. Oil crushed from the beans goes into salad oils, oleomargarine, cooking fats, and other foods rich in energy and fat. From the meal left after the oil is removed are made flour, breakfast foods, macaroni, infant foods, crackers, and a whole new line of foods rich in proteins, vitamins and minerals. Even the whole bean is used more widely in an increasing variety of dishes. And now, not to slight King Corn, a product that the western hemisphere gave to the world, here are some of the uses made of the King over and beyond those familiar to everyone, of human and animal food. Fibrous glass cloth used for bomber brake linings; rayon cloth for parachutes; cloth for soldiers uniforms; for tents, for bandages and many other war necessities; starch used in the manufacture of various textiles; special molds for castings of aluminum, steel, iron, magnesium, bronze and copper for airplane engines, tanks and other implements of war; core binders for foundries making war materials; adhesives for many purposes, including containers for shipping ammunition and other war products; nitro starch for explosives; starch used for the paper shells for small arms; asbestos and wallboard used in defense housing; some ingredients of paints and varnishes, also used for war workers homes; paper products used in shipping containers. Almost one-third of the corn sold for such industrial uses—300 lbs. out of every 1000 lbs.—is returned in the form of high protein feeds or concentrates derived from the gluten and germ oil discarded in manufacturing processes. No wonder corn was missed when it was withheld from the market by farmers, because of an unfavorable price in comparison to the return derived from its use in hog feeding.

Foxtail says: Squawberry Flat is one place where the shortage of alarm clocks don't fret nobody. Farmers ain't got time to sleep.—Prairie Farmer.

A man thinks he is doing the chasing until the girl catches him.—Ex.



HORTICULTURAL NOTES

By J. B. Taylor

This very distinctive city not being represented in our last issue, I am taking it upon myself to pinch hit for my friend Hi. But he does not suspect me.

Someone recently let out a howl about the old Am. Ivy and while we know there are better vines, but none that sticketh closer than a brother to us and it has its place where the more tender varieties cannot be grown to an advantage. It grows up and covers quickly.

Mrs. Bartholomew of Ipswich put it to an attractive use by planting it near a post and put up a sort of an umbrella lattice work on top and kept it properly trimmed. This provided a shady spot that she used to enjoy. It looked like Catalpa Bungei at a distance.

Then whenever I mentioned the good old Box Elder, someone always derides my good judgment but we all have to agree that there is no deciduous tree that provides as dense a shade and with just a little care trimming it, assumes such a perfect shape.

We have a fine specimen in our yard and that is the first thing our grandsons make for. And such fun and protection they have picnicing under its protecting branches and such sport they have building tree houses and playing the role of Tarzan.

I would like to bet a dozen of Ma's doughnuts (Mrs. Taylor) and she can make good ones but about the only way I can get any now is on such a bet as she claims they are bad for high blood pressure but I rather think this is bunk and especially do I believe this after reading an article I believe was in Liberty, when it stated medical authorities do not agree on anything, that George and Grace Gurney would not take \$200.00 for the overgrown Box Elder that shades their entire front yard. We have passed many a pleasant hour visiting and relaxing under its cooling shade and one can really appreciate this at Yankton where the hot relentless sun there blisters the Missouri Valley.

But anyone has my consent to cuss the Chinese Elm (and I wonder if it did not come from Japan). And I guess it seems easy to forget old friends and trail after some frivolous dame and we so many times forget our good old standbys like Green Ash, Box Elder, American Elm and Cottonwood and take up with the cunning Catalpa, Capricious Carolina Poplar and the latest the compelling Chinese Elm.

In days gone by they each had their inning and if you notice all of these begin with the let-

ter C. The country was flooded with the Catalpa in the early days, then the Carolina Poplar supplanted it and then was ushered with great eclat the far famed Chinese Elm. The air was polluted by them. But Maris and I can truthfully state that we never rammed a Chinese Elm down anyone's throat, literally or figuratively so our conscience does not bother us as much as some others probably do. But I have found out this season that a Chinese Elm has its place and after reviewing the wrecks last spring we grubbed the faithless trees out and piled them up and not having time to burn them, noticed later that one of our favorite songsters, the Brown Thrush, was nesting in each pile. Now this was worth while as there is no bird in spring or early summer we enjoy more than this fine feathered friend. So you see there is good in nearly everything. Which puts me in mind of the story told at sea. Death had come to one of the passengers and after the service it was always customary to ask those assembled to speak a good word for a deceased. No one said a word until someone from this county said: "Now, if no one can say a kindly word for the departed, I would like to tell you all the good things about Edmunds County, South Dakota."

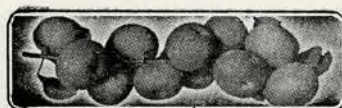
Well, we miss Hi and Lucy as they are truly boosters and have done everything they could to build up this fair state of ours. Hope they come back soon.

On the start I mentioned "this very distinctive city" and I have an article in mind that when the spirit moves me (some Quaker blood in the family somewhere), will send it on. It really is not horticulture but rather a kin to it.

(Continued from Page 12)

listed 19,995 banded since 1920. Of these, 52 had given return records. Most of them were recovered at the original place of banding or nearby, a few on the Gulf Coast, one in Porto Rico, two on the north coast of South America. Previous to this time, a tern banded in July, 1913, had been recovered in August, 1917, in South Nigeria, West Africa. Later reports gave many more from the West Indies and northern coast of South America.

Dr. O. L. Austin of Chatham, Massachusetts, has done a vast amount of work on the terns there. In 1932, the fact that grass was increasing on the beaches, caused him to make a special study of nesting in relation to grass. Areas partly covered with heavy grass seemed a little preferred over bare ones and much over those covered with heavy grass. The grass harbored rats which destroyed many eggs. He found no evidence that heat of the sun hastened hatching on bare areas. By setting drop traps over nests, he



captured 1322 adults of which 83 had been banded as adults and 46 as nestlings in previous years. In 16 years they had banded over 112,000 terns and about two-thirds of them were this species. One bird, banded as a nestling, was trapped 14 years later.

(Continued from Page 5)

white to purple flowers. Some of the species are palatable forage plants while others accumulate the Selenium of some of our west river soils and cause serious losses among livestock.

9. **Locoweed** (*Oxytropis* spp.) The locoweeds resemble the *Astragali* in general appearance but differ in the details of the flower. In the *Astragali* the keel is blunt while in *Oxytropis* the keel is pointed. The flowers are very showy and form elongated upright racemes varying in color from white to reddish purple. The plant, when eaten by horses, produces a disease known as locoism.

10. **Beggar's Ticks** (*Meibomia* spp.) These plants are common in woods of the eastern part. The flowers are not very showy but the fruits which bear barb-like hairs that catch on one's clothing are very apparent and annoying. The pods are jointed between the seeds and break up into one seeded segments. This is of course nature's way of dispersing the seeds.

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